

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tuscaloosa, Alabama – July 27, 2020 – The Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority (TCIDA) has a new executive director. The TCIDA selected Danielle Winningham to lead the organization after an extensive national search.

Winningham brings several years of experience to the organization as a leader in economic development. Most recently, she served as chief operating officer at Madison County Economic Development Authority in Mississippi.

“After reviewing many candidates from across the country, we are excited that Ms. Winningham will be joining the TCIDA as our new executive director,” said Mark Crews, chair of the TCIDA Board of Directors. “She was selected based on her vast experience in economic development and her relationships across the industry. We feel strongly that she will bring real value and opportunities for growth to our area.”

Winningham has more than 12 years of experience in economic development. Prior to serving as chief operating officer, she was the director of business development for the Madison County Economic Development Authority. She also served as the business development manager and marketing director for the East Mississippi Business Development Corporation.

“I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as executive director of the TCIDA,” said Winningham. “I plan to lead the Industrial Development Authority in a manner that builds trust through open communication and collaboration in order to strengthen Tuscaloosa County’s competitive economic development position.”

The TCIDA is the economic development agency for all jurisdictions within Tuscaloosa County and is a one stop source for accessing all manufacturing site location data including available sites and buildings, financing, employee training and incentives. Created in 1973, the TCIDA has played a pivotal role in the recruitment of manufacturing jobs to the West Alabama region.

Winningham will be replacing Bryan Chandler who has served in a part-time capacity as TCIDA’s interim executive director since December 2018. During his tenure, TCIDA announced new and expanding projects that represent the creation of over 1,000 new jobs and \$683 million in new capital investment.

“Bryan and the TCIDA staff have done yeoman's work since the level of activity has outpaced anything we’ve seen in the past few years,” said Crews. “We appreciate the work that the team has put in for our area under his leadership”.

Winningham is a graduate of Mississippi College and the University of Oklahoma Economic Development Institute. She has certifications in economic and workforce development and is a member of several boards and councils including the Mississippi Economic Development Council, Southern Economic Development Council, International Economic Development Council and the Transatlantic

Business Investment Council. She is married to Allen Winningham, a native of Rainbow City, Alabama, and has two children, Luke (6) and Lydia (4).

“On behalf of the City of Tuscaloosa, I am pleased to welcome Ms. Winningham to her new role as executive director of the TCIDA,” said Tuscaloosa Mayor Walt Maddox. “Her depth of experience in and knowledge of economic development will be invaluable to our area as we continue our focus on economic growth and strengthening our local economy.”

Judge Rob Robertson, chairman of the Tuscaloosa County Commission, added, “Danielle brings fresh thought and a wealth of relative experience with her to Tuscaloosa. I believe she will be a tremendous asset to our community as we look to the future. I look forward to working with her to continue our economic success.”

Winningham’s hire has been approved by the TCIDA executive committee and she will begin her new role August 10.

###